



KANSAS



FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

August 2005

**Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources Floodplain Program**

Kansas Association for Floodplain Management Annual Conference—September 7-8, 2005

The KAFM annual conference is fast approaching. Please take a minute to put it on your calendar and to register for this conference. This year the conference will be held at the Holidome in Manhattan. Following this article is a preliminary conference schedule. As conference details are confirmed, the information will be posted to the website. The registration fee is \$125 for KAFM members and \$150 for nonmembers. Registration information is included on page 2 of this newsletter. It also can be accessed on the KAFM website at www.kafm.org.

Conference topics this year will include educating residents on floodplain issues, various funding opportunities for floodplain projects, general NFIP discussions of compliance and map adoption, and training opportunities for elevation certificates, floodproofing opportunities, and letters of map changes.

Officers will be elected during the conference. If you are interested in serving as an officer, visit the KAFM website to access the nomination form.

The CFM exam will be given from 9:00 am -1:00 pm Friday, September 9, 2005. Please register through the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM). For more information on exam requirements, visit their website at: www.floods.org.

If you have questions about the annual conference or KAFM in general, contact any KAFM officer. The officers are John Schmit, chair, (316) 722-4472, jschmit@schwab-eaton.com; Kirk Miller, vice chair, (316) 264-0242 kirk@kemiller.com; Jon Bristor, treasurer, (620) 326-2207, jbristor@co.sumner.ks.us; Steve Higgins, secretary, (785) 537-6332, shiggins@co.riley.ks.us.

We look forward to seeing you in Manhattan on September 7-8, 2005.

KAFM Conference Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, September 7

12:00—1:00	Conference Registration
1:00—2:00	Opening Remarks/Keynote Speaker
2:00—3:15	Session 1
3:15—3:30	Break
3:30—4:45	Session 2
4:45—6:00	Social Hour/Exhibits
6:00—8:00	Dinner and Guest Speaker

Thursday, September 8

8:00—8:30	Continental Breakfast
8:30—9:45	Session 3
9:45—10:00	Break
10:00—11:15	Session 4
11:15—12:00	KAFM Meeting, Election of Officers, Closing Remarks, Adjourn
1:00—5:00	Study session for CFM Exam

The sessions will include educating residents on floodplain issues, various funding opportunities for floodplain projects, general NFIP discussions of compliance and map adoption, and training opportunities for elevation certificates, floodproofing opportunities, and letters of map changes. As speakers are confirmed, the KAFM website will be updated.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Holiday Inn
Holidome
530 Richards Dr
Manhattan, KS 66502

Special Lodging Rate: The Holiday Inn in Manhattan has provided KAFM with a guest room rate for our conference of \$79 per night. Reservations may be made directly with the Holiday Inn by calling (785) 539-5311 or (800) 465-4329. Ask for rooms with the Kansas Floodplain Manager's Conference when making your reservation. Room reservations should be made before August 29, 2005.

Registration Form

Name _____

Title/Organization _____

Address _____

City/County/Agency Represented _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Member ☐

Nonmember ☐

Vendor ☐

Please send me registration information for the CFM Exam

Business Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail Address _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Registration Fee Payment Information

Please make check payable to KAFM (Kansas Association for Floodplain Management) and send to: Kansas Association for Floodplain Management, c/o Jon Bristor, Treasurer, 501 North Washington - Room 105, Wellington, KS 67152.

***8 Hours Continuing Education, breaks, dinner, and continental breakfast are included with your registration fee.

KAFM Member
\$125

KAFM Non-Member
\$150

Vendor
\$225 (includes one registration)

Please register by September 3, 2005.

Map Modernization in Kansas

As a Cooperating Technical Partner with FEMA, the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources Floodplain Program manages most mapping projects in Kansas. The following map indicates the progress of map modernization in Kansas. The following list of counties have mapping projects currently under way, or are due to have projects undertaken in the near future. Additionally, a list of recently published effective Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) are included. If you have any questions regarding map modernization in Kansas, contact Collin Olsen at (785) 296-2513.

New or updated preliminary DFIRMS due to be published in 2005:

- Barton County and incorporated areas
- Butler County and incorporated areas
- Cowley County and incorporated areas
- Doniphan County and incorporated areas
- Douglas County and incorporated areas
- Edwards County and incorporated areas
- Franklin County and incorporated areas
- Leavenworth County and incorporated areas
- Linn County and incorporated areas
- Lyon County and incorporated areas
- Miami County and incorporated areas
- Sedgwick County and incorporated areas
- Wyandotte County and incorporated areas

New or updated preliminary maps due to be published in 2006:

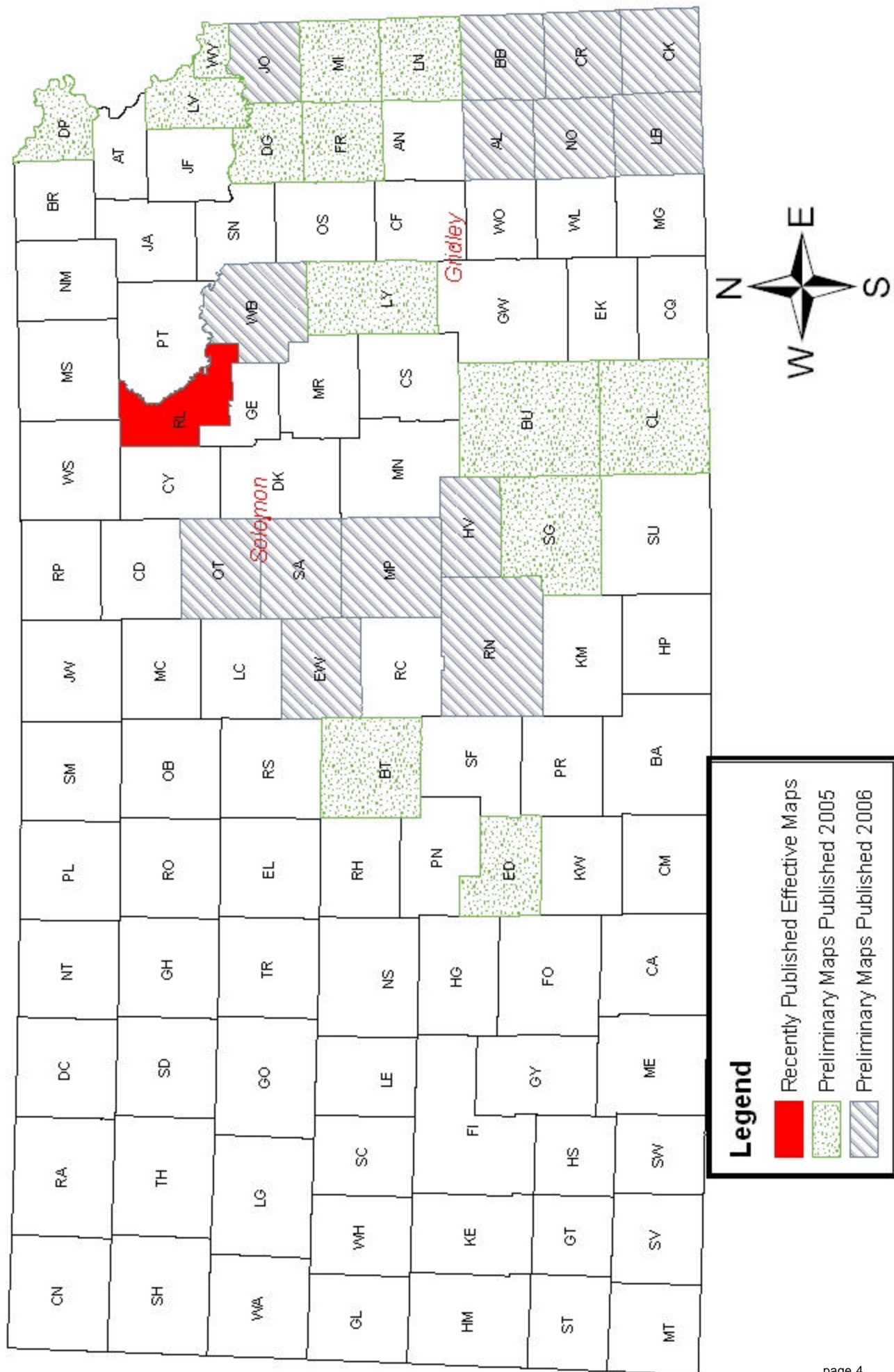
- Allen County and incorporated areas
- Bourbon County and incorporated areas
- Cherokee County and incorporated areas
- Crawford County and incorporated areas
- Ellsworth County and incorporated areas
- Harvey County and incorporated areas
- Johnson County and incorporated areas
- Labette County and incorporated areas
- McPherson County and incorporated areas
- Neosho County and incorporated areas
- Ottawa County and incorporated areas
- Reno County and incorporated areas
- Saline County and incorporated areas
- Wabaunsee County and incorporated areas

Recently published effective DFIRMs:

- City of Solomon
- City of Gridley
- Riley County and incorporated areas



Updated Mapping Status



Emergency Preparedness – Nonsense or Just Good Sense?

Reprinted from NewsMax.com

Norris L. Beren

Monday, April 25, 2005

What, me worry? Preparedness is not for me because I don't fear my family's involvement in a terrorist attack or the threat of being affected by a hurricane, power outage, tornado, flood, snowstorm, industrial accident, train wreck or overturned truck. I know I am apathetic, complacent and indifferent because I do not have any fear or worry about a need to be prepared. I'm an optimist.

Besides, I really don't have time to plan. I am far too busy to be preparing for an emergency. I have no time to go home and find out how to turn off the gas, water and electricity. Then I might have to find out what the emergency procedures are at my kid's school. Emergency procedures at my workplace? Do I need to know that too? I will have a nervous breakdown worrying about all this and, besides, it will not happen to us. You want me to practice an evacuation plan in case of a fire at home? Why? None of us smoke and we do not use candles on our holiday decorations or ever use our fireplace. I seldom cook, because I am too busy. Why worry about a fire? I do lock my doors when I leave, however.

You want me to have emergency phone numbers in my car, at work and on the refrigerator, flashlights, extra batteries, an emergency radio, bottled water and meals ready-to-eat? Next you will want me to buy duct tape and plastic. You know how that went over a couple of years ago.

Besides, preparedness is for people in big cities with big buildings and states with earthquakes and hurricanes. Isn't it?

But hey, wait a minute! Recent experience shows that the public must be involved in its own emergency preparedness planning. Part of this is being prepared to deal with the reality that depending upon government, federal aid and assistance and other programs alone is generally foolish unless you're prepared to sleep on a city street during a widespread power outage, live in a tent or school shelter after a tornado or flood, or wait for the fire department to get you down from a burning high-rise building. Ask the people in Florida who were prepared and those who were not.

Preparedness, even with advanced equipment, technology, inter-operability, tested procedures and lots of money, is not most effective if the public does not take steps to educate and train themselves to respond to threats and potential emergencies.

The difficulty in promoting preparedness and getting people to take action is the confusion of understanding when an emergency is probable, likely to affect their family and offer severe consequences. Personal preparedness and acceptance of the new role that people are their own first responder is essential to being truly prepared for a crisis, disaster or emergency.

Despite a long history of disastrous fires, floods, mudslides, earthquakes and tornadoes, only about half of the people in the greater Los Angeles area have taken some steps to be prepared for a disaster. However, the other half have not. That's at least 5 million people admittedly unprepared. If recent disasters do not get people to change their optimistic view of their likelihood that they will be involved in a disaster, then nothing will.

People spend a lifetime building a lifestyle that can be wiped out in minutes. It makes sense to protect against or at least plan for that eventuality.

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Emergency Preparedness – Nonsense or Just Good Sense? (continued)

People are not fearful enough about a terrorist attack or a natural disaster and the damage to their lives and community that could happen. Perhaps they should be frightened out of their wits, but apparently not. The 9/11 Commission report says we are not safe yet. Despite all this, only 2 out of 10 people in this country feel "very prepared," according to the American Red Cross, for a catastrophic event.

Only half of parents polled admitted that they knew the emergency plans of their children's school. The number of people who know the emergency preparedness plans at their job is also about half. The number of people who say that they have a family emergency plan that covers a place to meet if they are evacuated has gone down, not up, in the past year.

These statistics suggest that people have a bias toward being optimistic and thinking "it won't happen to me" rather than considering the consequences of "what if it does happen to me and I am not prepared."

We need to understand the danger we face and the possible manifestations. We must decide and evaluate that for ourselves. Oftentimes half the population goes into meltdown and panic, buys every bottle of water, carton of eggs, loaf of bread and gallon of milk available in the prospect of stores closing for days and deliveries not being made for the near future.

So, is preparedness an attempt to have the population worried, insecure and compliant as a means of control, or just an attempt to allow elected officials to say that they are doing something given all the uncertainty in this uncertain world?

There are many ways of promoting preparedness awareness. Campaigns such as "Ready.gov" tell people to prepare for emergencies. However, despite all the public service announcements, by December 2003, only 4 percent of people polled could even name the government Web site that offers information about preparedness. More than 4 out of 5 respondents did not even take a guess.

We tell people to prepare for a disaster or emergency and be their own first responder because government cannot be everywhere when help is needed. Perhaps we should spend less time promoting preparedness and more time promoting buying blue tarps, tents, meals ready-to-eat and more duct tape and plastic.

Norris L. Beren is the author of "When Disaster Strikes Home!" He is Executive Director of the Emergency Preparedness Educational Institute and host of "The Preparedness Report" on WGPN.com. He trains people to avoid the terrible consequences of not being prepared for a disaster or emergency. E-mail: norris@getprepared.org

Julie Grauer accepts FEMA Region VII Position

Julie Grauer, former supervisor of Kansas Department of Agriculture's Floodplain Program in February accepted a position with FEMA Region VII in Kansas City. Congratulations to Julie. She has filled one of the new map modernization specialist positions to help support the map modernization program. Julie can be reached at the FEMA Region VII office by phone at (816) 283-7044 or e-mail to julie.grauer@dhs.gov.

Rhonda Montgomery will continue to be state NFIP coordinator, and Collin Olsen will continue as floodplain mapping specialist.

ANOTHER CFM DATE: CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER PROGRAM

The Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) exam will be offered on September 9, at the Riley County Courthouse, 110 Courthouse Plaza, Second Floor Conference Room, Manhattan, following the Kansas Floodplain Manager's Conference

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) established the certified floodplain manager program in 1999. The emphasis of the CFM program is to ensure that floodplain managers know and understand the standards of the National Flood Insurance Program and have access to the tools to implement these standards at the local level.

The primary goal of the ASFPM CFM program is to promote wise use of the nation's floodplains, help reduce the nation's flood losses, and protect and enhance the natural resources and functions of floodplains by improving knowledge and abilities of floodplain managers. A secondary goal is to increase the prominence of floodplain management in decision-making by local officials and the public.

To sign up for the exam, contact the ASFPM office at (608) 274-0123 or visit their website: www.floods.org.

Congratulations to our CFMs in Kansas:

Jon Bristor, Belle Plaine
Edward Byrd, Topeka
Brian Cahill, Overland Park
Erin Cobb, Overland park
Michael Cooper, Iola
John Denlinger, Overland Park
Kelly Dixon, Wichita
Abbey Foltz, Overland Park
Robert George, Wichita
Scott Gonzalez, Lawrence
Julie Grauer, Lawrence
Steve Higgins, Alta Vista
Leif Holliday, Topeka

Dennis Lawlor, Topeka
Paul Miller, Prairie Village
Rhonda Montgomery, Topeka
Ricky Nusz, Kansas City
Rodney Odom, Lenexa
Collin Olsen, Lawrence
John Ruhl, Overland Park
Mike Schlesener, Overland Park
Peggy Sneegas, Overland Park
William Warren, Eudora
Amanda Wilson, Shawnee
William Zung, Lawrence

FEMA releases new publication—*National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Floodplain Management Requirements: A Study Guide and Desk Reference for Local Officials*

FEMA has announced the availability of *National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Floodplain Management Requirements: A Study Guide and Desk Reference for Local Officials*. This publication is intended to serve two primary purposes. First, it can be used as a study guide to improve the knowledge and skills of those responsible for administering and enforcing local floodplain management regulations and to help study for the Association of State Floodplain Manager's (ASFPM) Certified Floodplain Manager designation. Learning checks and exercises are included as an appendix.

Second, it can be used as a desk reference by Federal, State, and local officials when specific issues arise in implementation of NFIP floodplain management requirements. This publication is based on the IS-9 Home Study Course that was previously offered by the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) which has been updated to reflect current policies and programs.

Both a CD and a hard copy version of the study guide and desk reference are available. The CD version is identical to the hard copy, but is designed for ease of navigation among the units. It can either be run off the CD itself or downloaded to your computer Desk Top. The study guide and desk reference can be obtained as follows:

- * Both the hard copy and CD versions of the study guide and desk reference can be ordered by calling the FEMA Publications Distribution Center at 1-800-480-2520.
- * The PDF version of is now posted on the ASFPM web site www.floods.org under the Certified Floodplain Manager tab as a resource for studying for the CFM exam.

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Division of Water Resources
Floodplain Management
109 SW 9th Street 2nd Floor
Topeka KS 66612-1283

Please help us keep our records up to date. If your floodplain manager is different than the name that appears on this newsletter, please call (785) 296-4622 or send an e-mail to rmontgomery@kda.state.ks.us to inform us of the change.

Additionally, if your mayor or city clerk has changed, please let us know. Thank you.

Staff of the KDA/DWR Water Structures Floodplain Program

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